

1 RESOLUTION

2 of the

3 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION BOARD

4 of the

5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

6 of the

7 MID-REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF NEW MEXICO

8 (R-04-24 MTB)

9
10 **APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE LONG RANGE ROADWAY**
11 **SYSTEM MAP TO ALLOW SOUTHBOUND TO EASTBOUND LEFT TURNS**
12 **FROM COORS BOULEVARD TO WESTSIDE DRIVE**
13

14
15 WHEREAS, Coors Boulevard is designated on the Long Range Roadway
16 System map as a limited access principal arterial; and

17 WHEREAS, the Addendum to the Long Range Roadway System map identifies
18 primary access points to Coors Boulevard between Arenal and NM528; and

19 WHEREAS, Enactment 72-1984 of the Albuquerque City Council and Resolution
20 34-84 of the Bernalillo County Commission adopted the Coors Corridor Plan as a Rank
21 3 Sector and Neighborhood Development Plan containing both land use and
22 transportation policy guidance and requirements; and

23 WHEREAS, beginning in 1984 and continuing to the present, the Metropolitan
24 Transportation Board has reviewed the Coors Corridor Plan in relation to various public
25 and private proposals for access to and from Coors Boulevard via grade-separated
26 interchanges, traffic signals, and median openings and has enacted policies to identify

1 the approved locations for such access on the Long Range Roadway System map so
2 as to guide subsequent private and public development proposals; and

3 WHEREAS, the Coors Corridor Plan allows for addition of median openings
4 under Policy 4 where it states, "In exceptional cases, as determined by the Traffic
5 Engineer in consultation with the City Planner, directional median cuts may be permitted
6 if the additional cut is in the public interest and will relieve a safety or capacity problem";
7 and

8 WHEREAS, one such private sector proposal approved by platting action of the
9 City of Albuquerque in 1987 allowed for a temporary northbound to westbound left turn
10 from Coors Boulevard to Adobe Wells Drive (Westside Drive) by including an annotation
11 that reads in part as follows, "Pursuant to the Coors Corridor Plan no permanent median
12 openings shall be permitted within Coors Boulevard adjacent to the property. The left-
13 turn access to Adobe Wells Drive from Coors Boulevard is temporary and will be closed
14 by the City upon construction of Coors Boulevard/Coors Bypass Interchange."; and

15 WHEREAS, in the fifteen years since the platting action was completed, many
16 community conditions have changed, many roadway system improvements have been
17 made, and substantial increases in demand for traffic service have been experienced;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, a second private sector development proposal has come forward
20 with a request for southbound to eastbound left turn access from Coors Boulevard to
21 Westside Drive, and an analysis has been conducted supporting the conclusion that -
22 because of the isolation of the site caused by various physical barriers and the lack of
23 left turn access - a substantial number of "U" turn traffic movements along Coors

1 Boulevard can be expected, raising both traffic safety and operational capacity
2 concerns; and

3 WHEREAS, other lands immediately south and east of this development
4 proposal are constrained by physical barriers, would gain improved access with the
5 southbound left turn from Coors Boulevard, and would further benefit from a connection
6 to Irving Boulevard, making westbound to southbound left turns to Coors Boulevard
7 available at the existing traffic signal; and

8 WHEREAS, it is also expected that this unsignalized directional southbound to
9 eastbound median opening could continue to operate safely and effectively even when
10 various improvements are made to Coors Boulevard as future components of the Coors
11 Corridor Plan are implemented; and

12 WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Metropolitan Transportation Board
13 (MTB) to make any changes to the Long Range Roadway System for the
14 Albuquerque Metropolitan Planning Area.

15 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Metropolitan Transportation
16 Board (MTB) of the Mid-Region Council of Governments of New Mexico that:

17 1. A southbound to eastbound left turn from Coors Boulevard to Westside
18 Drive is designated on the Long Range Roadway System map for the Albuquerque
19 Metropolitan Planning Area and identified in the associated "Addendum to the Long
20 Range Roadway System"; and

21 2. An undesignated northbound to westbound temporary left turn from
22 Coors Boulevard to Westside Drive exists and may continue to operate until

1 changes to the roadway system or safety prompt its removal, following notification to
2 and review by affected property owners; and

3 3. Between Irving Boulevard and the Calabacillas Arroyo, no other left
4 turn movements to or from Coors Boulevard are allowed (Attachment A); and


5 4. Other access locations allowing for right turn movements only between
6 Irving Boulevard and the Calabacillas Arroyo may be allowed in accordance with the
7 process, requirements, and conditions of the Coors Corridor Plan; and

8 5. Extending Irving Boulevard east to connect to a local roadway system
9 between Coors Boulevard and the Rio Grande would improve circulation and access
10 to lands that are relatively isolated by the proximity of various physical barriers,
11 including the Calabacillas Arroyo, Coors Boulevard, Paseo del Norte, and the Rio
12 Grande (Attachment B); and

13 6. As public activities are undertaken to move forward with
14 implementation of these access limitations and other improvements, local
15 jurisdictions are urged to make reasonable efforts to notify potentially affected
16 property owners and business operators and to seek their input and comment.

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18 PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 26th day of August 2004 by the
19 Metropolitan Transportation Board of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Region Council
20 of Governments of New Mexico.

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Ronald D. Brown, Chair
Metropolitan Transportation Board

ATTEST:



Lawrence Rael, Executive Director
Mid-Region Council of Governments

Attachment A
(Excerpt from LRRS)



The map illustrates the proposed 'New Left-Turn-In Southbound' at the intersection of Westside Dr and Calabacillas Blvd. Key features include:

- Major Roads:** Eagle Ranch Rd, Calabacillas Blvd, Westside Dr, Irving Blvd, Coors Rd, and Paseo del Norte.
- Waterways:** Rio Grande, Arroyo, and various canals (e.g., Canal Frontagero, Canal Frontagero).
- Streets:** Eagle Ranch Rd, Calabacillas Blvd, Westside Dr, Irving Blvd, Coors Rd, Eagle Ranch Rd, Calabacillas Blvd, Westside Dr, Irving Blvd, Coors Rd, Eagle Ranch Rd, Calabacillas Blvd, Westside Dr, Irving Blvd, Coors Rd.
- Other Features:** A 'New Left-Turn-In Southbound' is marked at the intersection of Westside Dr and Calabacillas Blvd. The map also shows various residential streets, including Eagle Ranch Rd, Calabacillas Blvd, Westside Dr, Irving Blvd, and Coors Rd.